

Amendments to the Claims:

A complete listing of claims follows. Please note that claims 25 and 34 are being cancelled, while claims 1, 5, 8-12, 24 and 27 are being amended.

Listing of Claims:

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1. (Currently amended) A device for treating appendage ailments comprising:

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a base web comprising a nonelastic nonwoven web of fibrous material, the base web being laminated with an elastic layer, said base web and said elastic layer defining a sleeve, said sleeve having a distal end and a proximal end with one of said distal or said proximal ends being open and configured to allow the insertion of an appendage into said sleeve through said open end, the sleeve defining an interior surface and an exterior surface, the interior surface configured to be placed adjacent an appendage when inserted into the sleeve, ~~the base web further comprising an elastic layer component~~ for providing the sleeve with form-fitting properties and wherein the nonelastic nonwoven web forms ~~at least a portion of the interior surface of the sleeve.~~

2. (Original) A device as defined in claim 1, wherein said sleeve is tapered to better fit onto said appendage.

3. (Original) A device as defined in claim 1, wherein said distal end and said proximal end are open such that said open proximal end is adapted to allow the insertion of said appendage, said open distal end being adapted to receive said appendage inserted at said open proximal end such that said appendage can be inserted through said sleeve.

4. (Original) A device as defined in claim 1, wherein said nonwoven web is selected from the group consisting of spunbonded fiber webs, meltblown fiber webs, spunbonded/meltblown/spunbonded fiber webs, spunbonded/meltblown fiber webs, and bonded carded webs.

5. (Currently Amended) A device as defined in claim 1, wherein the elastic component layer comprises an elastomeric material. ~~the nonwoven web being attached to said elastic component in a manner that allows said elastomeric material of said elastic component to be stretched and contracted for providing said base web with form-fitting properties.~~

6. (Previously presented) A device as defined in claim 5, wherein said nonwoven web comprises a thermoplastic polymer.

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7. (Previously presented) A device as defined in claim 6, wherein said nonwoven web further comprises pulp fibers.

8. (Currently amended) A device as defined in claim 5, wherein said elastic layer component comprises a fibrous material.

9. (Currently amended) A device as defined in claim 5, wherein said elastic layer component comprises a film.

10. (Currently amended) A device as defined in claim 5, wherein said elastic layer component comprises a foam.

11. (Currently amended) A device as defined in claim 5, wherein said sleeve ~~base web~~ comprises a stretch-bonded laminate.

12. (Currently amended) A device as defined in claim 5, wherein said sleeve ~~base web~~ comprises a neck-bonded laminate.

13. (Previously presented) A device as defined in claim 1, further comprising a moisture barrier being incorporated onto at least a portion of said base web, said moisture barrier being substantially impermeable to liquids when contacted therewith.

14. (Previously presented) A device as defined in claim 13, wherein said moisture barrier is vapor-permeable.

15. (Previously presented) A device as defined in claim 13, wherein said moisture barrier comprises a plastic film.

16. (Previously presented) A device as defined in claim 13, wherein said plastic film is a microporous film.

17. (Previously presented) A device as defined in claim 13, wherein said moisture barrier comprises a multi-layered laminate.

18. (Previously presented) A device as defined in claim 17, wherein one of said layers of said moisture barrier comprises a nonwoven web of fibrous material.

19. (Previously presented) A device as defined in claim 17, wherein one of said layers of said moisture barrier comprises a vapor-permeable film.

20. (Previously presented) A device as defined in claim 1, said base web being applied with an additive selected from the group consisting of an antibiotic, an anti-microbial agent, an anti-inflammatory agent, a moisturizing agent, a topical analgesic, a vasodilator, a corticosteroid, dimethyl sulfoxide, capsaicin, menthol, methyl salicylate, neosporin, a cationic polymer, an anti-fungal agent, and combinations thereof.

21. (Previously presented) A device as defined in claim 20, wherein said base web is treated with a cationic polymer, said cationic polymer comprising chitosan.

22. (Previously presented) A device as defined in claim 20, wherein said base web is treated with an anti-inflammatory agent, said anti-inflammatory agent comprising a cyclooxygenase-1 inhibitor.

23. (Previously presented) A device as defined in claim 20, wherein said base web is treated with an anti-inflammatory agent, said anti-inflammatory agent comprising a cyclooxygenase-2 inhibitor.

24. (Currently amended) A device for treating appendage ailments comprising: a hollow sleeve member having an open end for the insertion of an appendage, said sleeve member comprising an elastic nonwoven material, said elastic nonwoven material being capable of being stretched and contracted for providing said sleeve member with form fitting properties, the elastic nonwoven material being laminated with comprising an elastic component and a nonelastic nonwoven web, the sleeve member defining an interior surface and an exterior surface, the interior surface configured to be placed adjacent an appendage when inserted into the sleeve member, the nonelastic nonwoven web forming at least a portion of the interior surface.

25. Cancelled.

26. (Previously presented) A device as defined in claim 24, wherein said sleeve member is tapered to better fit onto said appendage.

27. (Currently amended) A device as defined in claim 24 25, wherein said non-elastic nonwoven web is selected from the group consisting of spunbonded fiber webs, meltblown fiber webs, spunbonded/meltblown/spunbonded fiber webs, spunbonded/meltblown fiber webs, and bonded carded webs.

28. (Currently amended) A device as defined in claim 24, wherein said sleeve member ~~elastic nonwoven material~~ comprises a stretch-bonded laminate.

29. (Currently amended) A device as defined in claim 24, wherein said sleeve member ~~elastic nonwoven material~~ comprises a neck-bonded laminate.

30. (Previously presented) A device as defined in claim 24, further comprising a moisture barrier being incorporated into at least a portion of said sleeve member, said moisture barrier being substantially impermeable to liquids when contacted therewith.

31. (Currently amended) A device as defined in claim 24, said sleeve member ~~base web~~ being applied with an additive selected from the group consisting of an antibiotic, an anti-microbial agent, an anti-inflammatory agent, a moisturizing agent, a topical analgesic, a vasodilator, a corticosteroid, dimethyl sulfoxide, capsaicin, menthol, methyl salicylate, neosporin, a cationic polymer, an anti-fungal agent, and combinations thereof.

32. (Previously presented) A device as defined in claim 24, wherein said sleeve member has a shape configured to fit onto a finger or a toe.

33. (Previously presented) A device for treating appendage ailments comprising:

a hollow sleeve member having a first open distal end and a second open proximal end spaced from said distal end, said sleeve member having a shape configured to receive a finger or a toe, said sleeve member comprising a first panel attached to a second panel, the panels forming seams that extend along the length of the sleeve, the first panel comprising an elastic nonwoven material, said elastic nonwoven material capable of being stretched and contracted for providing said sleeve member with form fitting properties, the second panel comprising a nonwoven web, the nonwoven web defining at least a portion of an interior surface of the hollow sleeve.

34. Cancelled.

35. (Previously presented) A device as defined in claim 33, wherein the nonwoven web of said second panel is non-elastic.

36. (Previously presented) A device as defined in claim 33, wherein said sleeve member is tapered.

37. (Previously presented) A device as defined in claim 33, wherein said elastic nonwoven material comprises a material selected from the group consisting of stretch bonded laminates and neck bonded laminates.

B¹ 38. (Previously presented) A device as defined in claim 33, wherein said sleeve member is applied with an additive selected from the group consisting of an antibiotic, an anti-microbial agent, an anti-inflammatory agent, a topical analgesic, a vasodilator, a moisturizing agent, a corticosteroid, dimethyl sulfoxide capsaicin, neosporin, a cationic polymer, an anti-fungal agent, and combinations thereof.